

green, inner edges of remiges pale fuscous. "Iris grey." Bill and feet black (in skin). Wing 75, culmen 10, tail 39, tarsus 19 mm.

The single specimen was obtained fifty miles west of Russisi, north of Lake Tanganyika, in November 1908, by Mr. Rudolf Grauer. It was found in bamboo-forest, about 2000 m. above the sea.

Type: No. 3956, in the Tring Museum, Grauer Collection.

XXXVI.—*The Report on the British Museum for 1908.*

THE Annual Report on the British Museum for 1908, presented to Parliament by the Trustees, contains much interesting information concerning the National Collection of Birds at South Kensington, from which we extract the following passages:—

The Birds in the British Saloon have been re-arranged, and the old and faded specimens have been almost entirely replaced by new examples. One hundred and fifty-nine of these have been beautifully mounted and generously presented by Mr. Rowland Ward. Cases containing specimens of the Coal-Tit and Buffon's Skua have been added.

Some valuable additions have been made to the collection of skeletons and of birds in spirit; and among these, special mention may be made of the gifts of Birds-of-Paradise from Sir William Ingram, and of nestling Pelicans from Captain Stanley Flower, Director of the Zoological Gardens, Cairo.

The arrangement of the Passerine skeletons is now completed. Much curatorial work has been done to keep these collections in order, but the specimens in spirit are almost inaccessible owing to the want of suitable storage; while in regard to the skeleton-collection a very large number of old skeletons need to be replaced by new and properly prepared specimens.

A series of preparations illustrating the Classification of

Birds has been commenced for exhibition in the public galleries.

The accessions to the Collection of Birds in 1908 numbered two thousand nine hundred and twenty-one. Of these the most noteworthy were as follows :—

Six specimens of *Parus dresseri* and *P. borealis* from Gloucestershire ; presented by G. H. Paddock, Esq.

Six examples of *Charadrius morinellus*, and two specimens of *Pelecanus onocrotalus* ; presented by the Hon. N. C. Rothschild.

Eighty-two birds from Borneo ; presented by the British North Borneo Company. Twenty-eight birds from Shan-Si ; presented by Dr. E. H. Edwards. One hundred and thirty-three birds from Upper Burmah ; purchased of Messrs. Gerrard & Sons. Fifty-seven birds and eggs from Burmah ; presented by Major H. H. Harington. Two specimens of *Microperdix inglisi*—types of the species ; presented by Mr. Charles M. Inglis. Two hundred and eighty-eight birds from Tian Shan ; purchased of Mr. Kutzenko. Sixty-six birds, chiefly from Bannu, N.W. India (including the type of *Molpastes magrathi*) ; presented by Major H. A. F. Magrath. Two females of *Calophasis burmanicus* (from the Ruby Mines, Burmah) and one example of *Clangula glaucion* ; presented by Mr. E. W. Oates. Nests with eggs of *Geocichla varia* and *G. sibirica* from Japan ; presented by Mr. Radcliffe Saunders. Three hundred and nine birds from Kohat, N.W. Provinces, India ; presented by Lieut. C. H. T. Whitehead.

Two hundred and forty-one birds from Cameroon—including the types of six new species—collected by Mr. G. L. Bates ; purchased. Twenty-five eggs from Bitye, River Ja, Cameroon ; presented by Mr. G. L. Bates. A specimen of *Pitta reichenowi* from Jinja, 15 miles west of the Ripon Falls, Uganda ; presented by Dr. Cuthbert Christy. One hundred and twenty-five birds, collected by Captain Hamerton in Somaliland ; purchased. Two examples of *Scotocerca inquieta* ; presented by Mr. M. J. Nicoll. Thirty-two birds from Liberia ; presented by Mr. J. M.

Pye-Smith. Type-specimens of *Poliospiza mennelli* and *Pinarornis rhodesiæ*; presented by the Trustees of the Rhodesian Museum. An example of *Colius kirbyi*, from Lydenburg, E. Transvaal (type of the species); purchased.

Two hundred and forty-three birds from Paraguay; presented by the Hon. Wyndham Knatchbull-Hugessen.

Examples of *Paradisea minor*, *Ciccinnurus regius*, and *Diphyllodes hunsteini* from S.E. New Guinea; presented by Sir William Ingram. Ninety-four birds from New Guinea, collected by Mr. Walter Goodfellow; purchased.

Fourteen birds from New Zealand, including the type of *Pseudogerygone macleani*; presented by Mr. J. C. McLean.

In addition to the official catalogues and other volumes published by the Trustees, various reports and descriptive papers have been prepared by members of the B.M. staff in connection with different branches of the Collections, and have been published in various scientific journals. Those referring to the Class of Birds are entitled as follows:—

“Additional Notes on the Birds of Formosa”; “On Two supposed Hybrids between the Red Grouse and Ptarmigan”; “On a Collection of Birds made by Mr. Douglas Carruthers during his journey from Uganda to the mouth of the Congo”; “Remarks on some of the Birds recently described as new by Prof. Neumann”; “On two new Species of Grass-Warbler (*Cisticola belli* and *C. woosnami*) from S.E. Ruwenzori”; “On a new Species of Rail (*Saurothura buryi*) from Somaliland”; “On a new Species of Chat (*Saxicola hawkeri*) from the Sudan”; “On two new Species of Sun-bird (*Cinnyris seimundi*) from Fernando Po and (*C. batesi*) from S. Cameroon”; “On a new Species of Pucras Pheasant (*Pucrasia styani*) from Ichang, Central China”; “Report on the Immigrations of our Summer Residents in the Spring of 1907.” These were written by Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant.

“Nestling Birds and some of the Problems they Present”; “Note on the Late Nesting of the Bearded Tit”; “The Powder-down of the Heron”; “Note on the Chiff-Chaff in London”; “The Nest of the Ringed Plover and the bearing

thereof on the Evolution of Birds' Nests in General"; "On the Food of the Black-headed Gull"; "On the Position of the Ear in the Woodcock." All these were prepared by Mr. W. P. Pycraft.

We quite appreciate the value of this information, but venture to remark that this list would have been much more useful, "for convenience of reference," if the Journals in which these papers have been published had been exactly specified.

XXXVII.—Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.

[Continued from p. 560.]

81. 'Annals of Scottish Natural History.'

[The Annals of Scottish Natural History, a Quarterly Magazine with which is incorporated 'The Scottish Naturalist,' April and July, 1909.]

So long as Mr. Eagle Clarke continues his investigations on the migration of birds at Fair Isle, his papers will always be likely to form the main point of interest in our contemporary. His fourth report, in the April number, consists of observations during the year 1908, while he tells us that he has now succeeded in arranging for a permanent observer and a day to day record. George Stout, who has aided him so efficiently in the past, will be the first occupant of the post. The latest results are sufficiently remarkable, no less than 106 species having been noticed on the northward passage in spring, and 122 on the southward passage in autumn, but of these 89 were met with at both seasons. The greatest prize was an example of Savi's Warbler (*Locustella luscinioides*), the first recorded in Britain for over 50 years; next we have the second British (= Scottish) specimen of the Subalpine Warbler. Species new to Scotland are *Anthus cervinus*, *Hypolais icterina*, and *Accentor collaris*; those occurring for the second time are *Loxia bifasciata*, *Emberiza rustica*, and *Tringa temmincki*. Several specimens of *Sylvia nisoria* were identified, besides other uncommon species not